



Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man

LIGHTNING RODS.

We are glad to see an increased attention among us to the erection of lightning rods for the protection of buildings. Our readers have also recently found by communications and advertisements in our columns that there is some competition in regard to the differently arranged modifications of the rod and fixtures, some of which have been patented. This is all well enough, as it calls attention to the subject and leads people to adopt one or the other accordingly as their fancy or judgment may dictate.

Whatever may be said of those different modifications, and each inventor, like a fond parent, will crack up his own, we would say to those of our readers who may be inquiring into the philosophy or principles on which these conductors act, that it is very simple. Dr. Franklin first demonstrated the fact that the lightning of the clouds was identically the same as the lightning or electric fluid excited by the common electric machines. This was a great discovery and led at once to the practical application of it in the adoption of a metallic conductor to convey the lightning to the ground in a safe and harmless manner. Experiments with the machine had taught the Dr. that sharp metallic points received and discharged the electric fluid quietly and silently, while a ball or a blunt end seemed to resist its passage. Hence he adopted the plan of using an iron or copper rod, say from an inch to three quarters of an inch in diameter, continuous from end to end, and each end pointed. The upper end to prevent corrosion and thereby becoming blunted was gilt or covered with silver leaf, and raised a few feet higher than the highest point of the building, and the lowest point passed into the ground until it came to moist earth. This rod was attached to the house by some non-conducting substance like horn of glass.

This then is the whole philosophy of the lightning rod. The points draw the electric fluid silently from the clouds, and the rod conveys it to the earth. The more numerous the points, the more easily the lightning is drained off. There should be one at least to every forty square feet of roof area. The rod should be well insulated—glass, horn, gutta percha, India rubber, all these are good non-conductors. If a half inch should fall upon the rod and enter the building it is proof that either the rod is not thoroughly insulated or that the conducting surface of the rod was not sufficiently large to convey that amount off. Hence it is important to have a perfectly good rod.

It is probable that it is the surface of the rod which conducts, and not the whole of the solid metal. If this is true, a large iron or copper tube presenting much surface would be better than a solid rod, as far as conducting power is concerned, but it would not be durable. We would advise our friends not to heed the quarks of inventors, but get large, well connected and well insulated rods, and put them up strong and tight.

LOOK OUT FOR THE BORERS.

The borer, which makes so much mischief in our orchards, usually lays its eggs, in our latitude, in the bark of the trees about the last of June, and from first to middle of July. As the season this year is a little "behind time," the insect is probably busy in doing mischief now.

The Editor of the Ploughman washes his trees with strong potash water, which he thinks will certainly be a preventive to the works of this destructive insect. We clip from his paper the following advice which we commend to those of our readers who have orchards to care for:

June is the proper month to wash young trees and kill the borers as well as other vermin which was just strong enough to bear up an egg.

We see that others are others are recommending soap suds instead of ley. We think suds are not strong enough to kill borers, old or young.

GIRDLING GRAPE VINES.

We have noticed that in many gardens where grape vines were not winter killed that they are making great growth, and have set their fruit in great abundance. Many vines have set more fruit than they can bring to maturity, and at the same time give much size to the berry. In such cases the bunches should be thinned out from time to time by snipping off the stems of the smallest berries.

This involves a good deal of time and care, but will pay in the increased size and excellence of the fruit which is allowed to remain and ripen. A new plan of bringing about pretty much the same thing has been adopted by John M. Ives of Salem, which is by girdling the branches. The Newburyport Herald thus speaks of it:

RINGING THE GRAPE VINES. We have been asked quite frequently as to when the grape vine should be ringed, and also the method pursued by John M. Ives, Esq., of Salem. The proper time is from the 15th to the 25th of this month. The method pursued was to girdle the branches for about the space of one inch commencing about one foot from where the branch leaves the main vine; the bark is entirely removed and the vine scraped under where the ring is taken. Vines treated in this manner produced fruit nearly twice the usual size; where a ring is taken one-half an inch in length or where a small connection of bark is left, the fruit grows about one-half as large again as usual; and the fruit last season on vines treated in this manner would fully ripen in open air culture, before the last of September.

The branches by this method are usually killed by the severity of our winters, but as they need severe pruning each season this answers the purpose. [Gen. Farmer.]

Currant Wine.

People think that they must have a "little wine for the stomach's sake." Good wine—wine that is wine, and not a compound of new rum, logwood, and sugar of lead, is often useful as a gentle stimulant, but not absolutely necessary in all cases. As it is almost an impossibility to get pure wine, we recommend to those who have the means to manufacture currant wine, and let it be pure currant wine, using nothing but pure currants, pure water, and pure sugar. Keep out your raw alcohol and your poisoned brandy.

We have heretofore given directions for making this article. We now publish the following which we borrow from the Massachusetts Ploughman:

There is no great difficulty in making good currant wine. White sugar or brown sugar may be used. The better the quality of the sugar the better the wine will be. The idea that any sort of sugar will do for wine is pretty well exploded.

It is now also said that white currants make a much nicer wine than the red currants. Will some producer try the white currant and report progress?

Currant Wine. This article, as usually manufactured, is rather a cordial than a wine, and is entirely inferior to the common wine; but when properly made, it will be a very superior, healthful beverage, particularly for summer drink, when fully diluted with water.

We have experimented carefully on the making of currant wine, and the following will be found to give a result which we have found no difficulty in selling in large quantities at \$1 per gallon.

Before pressing the juice from the currants pass them between a pair of rollers to crush them, after which they may be placed in a strong bag, and they will part with the juice readily by light pressure, such as a common screw, heavy weights, &c.

To each quart of juice add three pounds of double refined loaf sugar—single refined sugar is not sufficiently pure—then add as much water as will make one gallon. Or in other words, suppose the cask intended to be 50 gallons.

In this put 30 quarts of currant juice, 90 lbs. of double refined sugar, and fill the cask to the bung with water; roll it over until the sugar is all dissolved. This will be told by its ceasing to settle in the barrel. Next day roll it again and place it in a cellar where the temperature will be sure to be even. Leave the bung loose for the free admission of air. In the course of one or two or three days, fermentation will commence. By placing the ear to the bung-hole a slight noise will be heard such as may be observed when carbonic acid is escaping from champagne or soda water. Fermentation will continue for a few weeks, converting the sugar into alcohol. As soon as this ceases, drive the bung in tightly, and leave the cask for six months, at the end of which time the wine may be drawn off perfectly clear, without any excess of sweetness.

The reason why double refined sugar should be used may thus be understood. Ordinary sugar contains a half of one per cent. of gum, which when dissolved in water, becomes fetid. Suppose, then, four or five ounces of gum dissolved in a barrel of water, we can readily understand that at the end of a few months this water will be very foul in flavor; and most of the currant wine offered for sale, made from loaf sugar of common quality, and often from sugar very inferior to this, such as white Havana, &c., contains gum in its fetid condition, and its foul flavor is an amalgamation of sugar, currant wine, and fetus gum. When double refined sugar is used all these difficulties are avoided.

No alcohol should be added. The practice of putting in small quantities of brandy and other liquids makes a cordial and not a wine. All the sugar used may be much fermented as at least to remove its character chemically, and this will produce a good result.

Mr. EDITOR.—I have a cow that has given bloody milk for some six or eight weeks, and I wish to know if you will tell me through the Farmer, what will cure her?

I have given her saltpetre, and put garter in her brisket, but all to no purpose. She appears to be perfectly healthy, and gives a good mess of milk.

A SUBSCRIBER.

For the Maine Farmer.

BLOODY MILK.

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THE NEW BIRD.

Mr. EDITOR.—A word in regard to the new bird of which one of your correspondents spoke a week or two ago. You are right in supposing the one described to be the male; the female is smaller and of less brilliant plumage; but it is not the English robin, nor the golden robin, but a bird smaller than either of these, and one hitherto unknown in this vicinity, the oldest inhabitant having never seen one of the kind before the spring of 1857. They appeared in considerable numbers the past spring, driving off the common redstart, and building nests in every orchard. They are beautiful birds whatever may be their name, and are welcome to our groves and orchards.

J. H. HUTCHENSON.

Fayette Ridge, July 11, 1858.

NOTE. We should like to get a specimen of it. We would then find out its name, or make a good one for it. [Ed.]

SOP SUDS ON CABBAGES. I believe it will be a thankless piece of service for one gardener to teach another how to grow cabbages and cauliflower; yet, as these crops of vegetables often fall in various parts of the country, the following notice may, perhaps, be useful:

"Wherever soap suds have been used plentifully, cabbage and cauliflower have grown luxuriantly. I have made several inquiries of others who have used them, and in no instance have I heard of a failure where soap suds have been applied. I intend try them over broccoli, to see if they will prevent them from clubbing. Others as the doctors say, that quarter of the udder in which the trouble is,—that is, handle freely and press with the thumb and fingers, every part of it,—for some time. All these things will have a tendency to restore healthy action to the veins which have been disordered, they fail to do their duty, and blood becomes mingled with the milk. We should therefore, first, unload the crowded pustules on the nearest large vein, which is the milk vein. It may be easily done by putting a cord tightly drawn over the cow's body, with a pad or compress of folded cloth under the cord, immediately over the vein, and using a lancet or seam, as you do in opening a vein in the neck. The blood may be stopped in the udder. Second, continue giving saltpetre with common salt, and every night and morning bathe the udders with cold water, and "manipulate," as the doctors say, that quarter of the udder in which the trouble is,—that is, handle freely and press with the thumb and fingers, every part of it,—for some time. All these things will have a tendency to restore healthy action to the veins which have been disordered, they fail to do their duty, and blood becomes mingled with the milk. We should therefore, first, unload the crowded pustules on the nearest large vein, which is the milk vein. It may be easily done by putting a cord tightly drawn over the cow's body, with a pad or compress of folded cloth under the cord, immediately over the vein, and using a lancet or seam, as you do in opening a vein in the neck. The blood may be stopped in the udder. 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THE MAINE FARMER: AN



AUGUSTA:
THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 22, 1858.

MAINE STATE FAIR.

The circulars containing a schedule of the premiums and rules and regulations of the Maine State Agricultural Society, for the coming fair and show to be held in this city next September, are now circulated. The preparations on the grounds are going on bravely, and if weather permits, we see nothing that need hinder us from having a capital exhibition. We say, we see nothing that need hinder us. But our brother farmers and mechanics know full well that it needs them to make the show, after all. The best of fixtures may be put up. The wisest of rules and regulations may be laid down to systematize and govern the whole business, but if you don't do your part, each and every one of you, it will fail. We hope, therefore, that you will be on hand, up and doing in season, and lay out your work and plan all your arrangements so as to come out,—you and your wives and your little ones, and your herds, and flocks, and fatlings, to the farmers' and mechanics' jubilee. You work hard, and are kept confined nearly all the year on your farms and in your workshops, and it is due to yourselves, individually, and to all who are dependent upon you, generally, to have a little relaxation from labor, a little change of scene and of action. You will live the longer and die none the poorer by such recreation prudently carried out.

But there are other and equally imperative reasons why you should join, and with your means and influence aid in promoting the objects of the Society. Men must live and prosper by associated labor. To a limited extent, and in a limited circle, he must and should depend upon himself, but over and beyond this he must have associates, and the better associates he has, the more will he prosper in his own individual circle. He should, therefore, consider himself in duty bound to bestow a part of his time, and strength, and influence for the general good.

These exhibitions, in this light, become indications or exponents of the extent and quality of individual prosperity, and by coming out with our cattle, farm products and manuf and artistic products, we demonstrate what we have done, and ascertain, beyond a doubt, whereabouts in the scale of social improvement we stand, and show what progress we have made, and what more we need to make in order to become still more prosperous.

The show this year, being in the central portion of the State, will give an excellent opportunity to the central counties to be represented.

We have no doubt they will avail themselves of the opportunity. Somerset county has as yet never showed her strength at our State Shows. She can do it. We have been assured by the active and faithful Superintendent of the K. & P. and Somerset Railroads, that every facility shall be granted to the farmers and mechanics to get their cattle and products to and from the show. Ample cars will be in readiness at Skowhegan to take stock, &c., from that section. Good accommodations will be given to stock on the grounds. Somerset can bring out some of the best oxen in New England, if she will. Will she do it? We rather guess she will.

DEATH OF GEN. QUITMAN.

Gen. John A. Quitman died at Natchez, Miss., on Saturday, 17th inst., of a disease contracted at the National Hotel, Washington. He was about sixty years of age. A contemporary gives the following sketch of his life and public services:

John A. Quitman was born in Dutchess county, New York, where his father was a pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church. At that period slavery existed in New York, so that Gen. Mr. Quitman, in early manhood, migrated to Missouri, where he naturally availed himself of the "peculiar institution," of which he always remained a sincere and staunch defender. He early embraced the "States rights" views of Mr. Calhoun, although he was a cordial supporter of Gen. Harrison in 1840. Up to this date, and for some years after, he enjoyed no political offices, and to his honor it should be said that the chief obstacle to his advancement was the opposition which that scandalous principle presented.

In 1846-7 he volunteered for the Mexican war, receiving from President Polk the appointment of Major-General. His career was most creditable in every point of view. On the surrender of the city of Mexico he was made Governor of it. With Gen. Scott he ever remained on terms of intimacy and mutual regard. Returning from the war he applied himself to his plantation until 1855, when he was chosen to his present House of Representatives. His worth was known to Speaker Banks, who in disregard of other political differences, appointed him to the important post of Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs—a post of which he discharged the duties with eminent ability till the close of the last session of Congress. He did not speak much in the House, but his ability and honesty of purpose and his influence were well known.

The extreme Southern school of politics, but his personal and official integrity were cause for death to be lamented throughout the whole Union.

GOOD CHANCES FOR THE LANDLESS.

Those who have good health and strength, and no land, but are desirous of procuring a good farm and a home for themselves and children, are referred to the extra Farmer which we issue this week. There is no speculator's hamburgh about it. You can obtain the title to the lands from the State,—you can pay for them by the labor of your own hands, and that expended where it will benefit yourself and your farm. In addition to this you will as by the reference to the act which sets apart this land for settlement, that it is to become a permanent home, that is to say, if it cannot be taken from you or from your widow if you should die, or from your children for debt. Is not this a good chance for those who are seeking for land, where they can make a permanent home for themselves and children?

A SUBSTANTIAL TOKEN OF REGARD. Rev. Mr. Webb, of this city, having announced to his Society his determination to remain among them, despite attractive invitations from abroad, a meeting of the Society was held and a resolution unanimously adopted, expressive of the feelings of affection and confidence of the Society for their Pastor. A copy of the proceedings of the meeting was subsequently presented to Mr. W., by a committee of young men, together with a pack-a-packet containing seven fifty dollar bills, which were accepted by Mr. Webb, with some appropriate remarks.

HANDSOME CORN. Mr. Chas. A. Russ, Weeks' Mills, China, on the 21st inst., sent us what purported to be a fair specimen of a field of corn planted on the 20th of May. The stalks were of a good size, 6 ft. 6 in. high, and well spindled and silted out. We have seen no better corn, this season.

POST OFFICE CHANGES. The following changes of Postmasters have recently been announced: Levi B. Wyman, Postmaster at Tremont, Hancock Co., vice Wilson Gupfill, removed. Sam'l Maddox, Postmaster at Waldo, Waldo Co., vice Henry Davidson, resigned.

AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

PIONEER PICTURES.—NO. II.

Monrovia. The prairies. Wild flowers. Resin-weed. Prairie haying. Something about the crops. The weather. A common error.

MONROVIA, Atkinson Co., K. T., July 12, 1858.

DEAR FARMER:—I have changed my traveling plans, somewhat, since I last saw you. I then expected to take a trip down south—to Johnson and Lykins counties, but I had then seen but little of the northern portion of the territory, I concluded to remain and look around here awhile longer.

Monrovia is situated eleven miles due west of Sumner. It is quite a little town, and has a beautiful site. The country between here and the river has been settled only three years, yet the prairies are thick dotted with the rough looking, but comfortable cabin of the industrious go-ahead settlers.

These prairies are gently undulating, (usually designated rolling,) stretching away as far as the eye can reach in easy graceful billows. You can form a pretty fair idea of them if you will imagine old ocean moved by a gentle gale to be land, with not a tree or shrub in sight—notching but the grassy, sandy, soil, with here and there a cabin or shanty trembling upon the heaving waves, and the clear blue expansive above.

In the spring time when the grass first appears, these "boundless wastes" present to the admiring eye the appearance of one gigantic, bursting wheat field.

At the present season they are decked with a profusion of flowers of almost every hue. Pink, red, blue, yellow, and crimson liven the scene with an indescribable beauty; and it would almost seem that Isis had selected the scene for a fitting display of her magic powers. Resinweeds is the name of a flower which grows from four to six feet in height. Its blossoms are small and of a bright yellow color, and in all, except its size, resemble very much the sunflower of the East.

A resinous kind of gum exudes from the stalk when broken or bruised, and in appearance and taste is not unlike spruce gum.

Many of the farmers at present are busily employed in cutting hay. They go out upon the prairie almost anywhere, and slash away until they get tired of it. They get five to seven dollars a ton for it in the river towns. Last year at this time, it was sold for ten dollars.

Corn is looking nicely, or rather was, before the heavy rains of last week, which beat down considerably.

A few days of warm sunshine, however, will bring it up all right again. Winter wheat was cut three weeks ago, and came in very heavy. Spring wheat is nearly ready to cut.

There was but little wheat put in last season, but it is the intention of the farmers hereabouts to sow largely the coming season. Oats are going ahead quite rapidly. I passed several fields in which the crop was between four and five feet in height. I have not seen any ripe as yet—these are not the kind of lands for it, and even if they were the western people would not know what to do with it. I have heard many complaints from the Yankee portion of the settlers because they cannot have "rye and Indian." Brown bread is a luxury remembered in the past. It has not even seen a crust since I have been in the Territory.

The weather has been excruciatingly warm during the past few weeks, the mercury going out of sight completely. It is astonishing what vague ideas a great many of the eastern people have as to the situation of this territory, viz.: that it is in the same latitude with Massachusetts.

It is not until I show them the maps that they find that Kansas and Virginia are nearly in the same parallel.

G. W. B.

DEATH OF WM. T. PORTER. Wm. T. Porter, Esq., for nearly thirty years Editor of the New York Spirit of the Times, and for the last two years publisher of Porter's Spirit of the Times, died in New York, on Monday morning, 19th inst., after an illness of only a few days. He was about 50 years of age. He was the last survivor of five brothers, all of whom were more or less widely known by their writings. The Tribune says:

Few men pursuing a quiet literary life were better known than Mr. Porter, and few had more numerous friends in all parts of the country, or possessed a more wide spread popularity. He was a man of fine personal appearance, over six feet high, with excellent proportions, and some features; his appearance was one that would be apt to make an impression upon all who saw him. He was generous to a fault, polite and courteous in his manners, and upon all matters connected with the turf and sporting subjects, a high authority. He was a free liver, and his excesses in this regard probably hastened his death. Mr. Porter was never married.

MICHAEL'S PATENT METALIC TIP SHOES. We have been examining very recently the shoes to which the above heading refers, and are of the opinion of Mr. Michael, of Park street, and company, that they are an example of Yankee ingenuity in order to economies in an article of most extensive use, the shoe we never met with one more striking. The idea is so natural and the saving so much required, that the only wonder is that it had not been hit upon before it was suggested to Mr. Mitchell's mind. A glance at a shoe or boot mounted with metallic tip will satisfy any man that it is an article of great value.

It is not until we learn of the value of these shoes that we can be led to believe that they have been exceeded before any similar should happen, they should make for Queenstown. In accordance with this understanding, the Niagara having made one hundred and nine miles before the mishap, returned to this port. Upon her homeward way she must have passed the Agamemnon, but owing to the heavy fog which prevailed near the greater portion of that time, she was not able to do so.

As the Agamemnon has not yet arrived, although her destination was directed towards this shore, it is conjectured that she might not have delivered the arranged quantity of coal at the time of its failure, and may have consequently returned to their place of meeting, which will unavoidably protract the suspense which must necessarily be felt, as until she is spoken with, we can only be learned as to the cause of this disaster. The principal electricians, Dr. Stryker and Mr. Lawes on board the Niagara, are inclined to believe that the accident occurred on board the Agamemnon, which, as it would only implicate a faulty arrangement of some of the apparatus, would still leave hope of the ultimate success of the undertaking, whereas, if the separation had occurred at the bottom, its effects would be greatly to damp, if not deter the course of the vessel.

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THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.



ARRIVAL OF THE NORTH STAR.
The steamship North Star arrived at New York on Tuesday of last week. Her date is to the 7th inst. The North Star brings the intelligence of the failure of the Atlantic Cable expedition.

The following is a synopsis of the news:

ENGLAND. The friends of Lord Palmerston (who had been placed in a lunatic asylum) are about taking steps to establish her sanity.

A grand banquet was given at the London Tavern on the 5th of July by the American Association. Gen. Campbell, United States Consul to London, presided, on whose right sat Mr. Dallas. 150 Americans were present and many Englishmen.

THE TELEGRAPH EXPEDITION. Queenstown, Ireland, July 1st. The Niagara and Agamemnon arrived at Queenstown.

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FRANCE. It is officially announced that Queen Victoria will visit Napoleon at Cherbourg on the 4th of August. It is generally received as a confirmation of the continued alliance of England and France, and a guaranty of the peace.

Paris letters report a visible improvement in commercial affairs. Large orders had been received in the manufacturing towns, and purchases from the United States had begun to appear in the market. The crop accounts are favorable, but breadstuffs were firm.

These are rumors of another conspiracy having been discovered, and arrests made. Italians are implicated.

It is said the office of Director General of Public Safety will be revived, and attached, before, to the Ministry of the Interior.

SPAIN. The budget of Cuba for the next year presents a surplus of 100,000,000 reals.

The note to England, demanding explanations of Spanish and slave trade, had been read at an extraordinary Cabinet council.

An addition of 33,000,000 reals had been made to the floating debt.

ITALY. It is reported from Turin that the Neapolitan government, through British intervention, had offered the owners of the Cagliari 100,000 francs for the detention of their vessel, and a third time connected the cable. They then started afresh, and the Niagara had paid out over one hundred and fifty miles of cable, all on board entered the most sanguinary anticipations of success, when the fatal anchor had ceased to float. As the necessity of abandoning the project for the present was now only too manifest, it was considered that the opportunity might as well be availed of to test the strength of the cable.

Accordingly this immense vessel, with all her stores &c., was hauled to the cable, and a long and strain of four or five hours upon the brakess; yet, although it was blowing fresh at the time, the cable held her as if she had been at anchor for over an hour, when a heavy pitch of the sea snapped the rope, and the Niagara bore away for Queenstown.

She must have passed the Agamemnon, but owing to the heavy loss, missed seeing or hearing of him. The Niagara and Agamemnon met a third time on the 28th, and a third time connected the cable. They then started afresh, and the Niagara had paid out over one hundred and fifty miles of cable, all on board entered the most sanguinary anticipations of success, when the fatal anchor had ceased to float. As the necessity of abandoning the project for the present was now only too manifest, it was considered that the opportunity might as well be availed of to test the strength of the cable.

DENMARK. The reply of the Danish government to the Germanic Diet had been dispatched to Frankfort. It is understood to be conciliatory.

ARABIA. On the 15th of June the Mohametan rebels, who had captured the port of Aden, had not delivered their specific quantity of cable at the time of the failure, and may have consequently returned to the place of meeting.

Should nothing be heard of her, the Niagara would, after coaling, proceed to the Ocean Station, having still on board 1300 miles of her cable, and add another strain of four or five hours upon the brakess; yet, although it was blowing fresh at the time, the cable held her as if she had been at anchor for over an hour, when a heavy pitch of the sea snapped the rope, and the Niagara bore away for Queenstown.

The Spanish Ambassador at Paris had resigned in consequence of the change of ministry in his country.

The Times' Paris correspondence says that explanations had been demanded of the Viceroy of Egypt with reference to the loan he is about to negotiate with an English house.

GERMANY. The coercive measures which it is still to be adopted by the German Diet in case of Denmark refusing to accept the ultimatum of the British government of the reduction of the Duchies by a corps of the Federal Army, and the seizure of the Duchy of Lauenburg, to cover the expenses of the military occupation.

TURKEY. The Independence of Brussels stated that Mr. Thoreau, French Ambassador at Constantinople, has received an assurance from the Porte that no further dispatch of troops to the Asiatic coast will take place, and that orders had been given to the Turkish forces on the spot, not to enter on any hostilities, direct or indirect, with the Montenegro.

LAST ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICA.

The steamship America arrived at New York on Friday, with dates to the 10th inst., three days later than the above. The following comprises everything of interest:

Great Britain. The India bill was passed in the House of Commons without a division.

The Lords have passed the Jews' bill through the committee.

The bill regulating the government of New Caledonia has passed its second reading in the Commons.

The Earl of Malmesbury announced that government would withdraw its squadron from Cuba for obvious reasons, but would continue the blockade of the African coast.

The Agamemnon had not returned to Queenstown, and it was supposed she went to mid-ocean. The Niagara had sailed, and was ready for sea again. The Directors will determine future plans on the arrival of the Agamemnon.

If we are told that Queen Victoria would visit Napoleon at Cherbourg, if she did not attend the Naval demonstration.

A railway train between Wolverhampton and Birmingham was struck by lightning on Thursday, during a thunder storm. Every person in the train felt the shock. The gear was struck with such violence, that the driver and cook were enveloped in a sheet of flame, but were not incinerated from attending to their duties.

THE CRUSADES. We learn with regret that the crusaders in St. Charles and opposite us are still extending their damages. Two of the three breaks on Mine Labranche's plantation, on Friday, were joined into one immense one by breaking of the levee previously standing between them. Not only is a large portion of Lafourche's plantation in the hands of the English, but also the subject of St. James previously held by the French, the probability of overflow, are inundated, and the waters continue to flow in, both from the crevasses opposite New Orleans and Carrollton and from those in St. Charles, and there is as yet no sign of the river at those points failing, the prospect is anything but encouraging. We learn that the odor arising from the decaying of the dead bodies, so offensive to planters, even on this side of the river, as to compel them to close every opening at night in order to exclude it, and fears are felt that it may ultimately engender sickness. This, it is to be hoped, however, will not prove the case.

The overflow is reported to have had the effect of greatly extending the peregrinations of those amphibious reptiles, the alligators. As many as a hundred have been killed on one plantation since it commenced.

The crops not affected by the overflow, we are glad to hear represented as very promising.

PAUL MORPHY'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN LONDON.

The steamer Indian arrived at Quebec on Saturday, bringing dates from Europe to the 14th inst. The following summary embraces everything of importance:

On the 12th, in the Locks, the Parliament of the Commons, to admit Mr. Hill into Parliament was passed, as also were the resolutions of the Lords for objecting to the Commissions bill on the subject.

In the Commons, Mr. Hatt moved resolutions declaring it expedient to discontinue the practice of authorizing men-of-war to visit and search vessels under foreign flags with the view of suppressing piracy, and the English were the subject of the offensive words of Lord Malmesbury, on the question of the English cruisers.

It is stated that an expedition of 10,000 men is preparing in Spain for the purpose of proceeding to Mexico, to enforce satisfaction for unredressed grievances against the Mexican government.

AUSTRIA. The Cologne Gazette spreads the rumor that the concentration of Russian troops in Poland, threatening Prussia, is the preparation for the war of 1845, relative to the incorporation of Cracow into the Austrian monarchy. It is positively denied that Austria has bound herself by treaty to give assistance to Turkey in case of need.

GENERAL ITEMS. The Paris Conference was dissolved.

The Bank of France has increased its species during the month of 18,000,000 francs.

The Sultan of Turkey has called out 100,000 men to fill up losses in the army by recent expense.

A postal treaty between Greece and Russia is about to be concluded.

A Trieste dispatch, dated Thursday, states that after the Paris Conference, Faust Pachis will go to London to demand the evacuation of the Isle of Perim by the English.

STILL LATER—ARRIVAL OF THE INDIAN.

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The London Times satirizes the visit of Queen Victoria to Cherbourg, and says that station has no other object than to menace England, and calls upon government to man a large channel fleet and otherwise prepare for defence, and invite Napoleon over to see how well England is ready to resist invasion.

Two firework manufacturers in London exploded on the 12th inst., inflicting injury to two hundred persons, some fatally.

The Orange demonstrations at Belfast and elsewhere ended on peacefully.

It is reported that Sir Allan McNab of Canada will be the first Governor under the new Colonial Government.

The Liverpool Chamber of Commerce had intended to protest to British rights in the matter of the forced loan in Mexico.

It is reported that government intends to apply for power to raise a loan of £3,000,000, to be devoted to the purification of the river Thames.

Ashley, Williams & Co., of Liverpool, in the South American trade, have suspended; liabilities estimated at £150,000.

The squadron to accompany Queen Victoria to Cherbourg, consists of six sail of the line, six frigates and a lotilla of steam yachts, under command of Lord Lyons.

Admiral Sir George says that the applications for the new Railway loan of three millions sterling, reached four times the amount required.

The London Times, in a leader, contradicts the views of Lord Palmerston, of national duty in regard to the slave trade, and encourages the examination and their approval if necessary.

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The Agamemnon encountered furious storms, and rolled so heavily that great fears were entertained for her safety. She sustained considerable damage.

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THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

The Muse.

From the Scottish American Journal.

POSITIVELY THE LAST.

We grieve to say that the incident of Jessie Brown of Lucknow turns out, as was anticipated, to be one of those pleasant stories which are too strange than true. Dr. Duff had his inquiry about it, and this is the melancholy result. The conclusion for the interesting romance was in the enthusiasm with which the Highlanders on entering the Residency, greeted the women and children, shaking hands with the former and taking the latter in their arms and kissing them. There is actually no Jessie Brown. That interesting, but by no means accurately represented young female, exist only in the prolific imagination of the writer in the Paris Press. From our observation of that various point, we feared, at the first, that this must be the case, for just a week or two before, an innocent paragraph of ours had been doing its duty in its column of style so exaggerated, that we scarcely recognized it as our own offspring. It had been amplified and embellished by some ingenious writer whose remuneration per line was double a potental indenitement, and in this form we were surprised one fine morning to find it translated into the New York Herald, and made the subject of a leading article by our wonder-loving contemporary.

The writer in the Paris, romancer though he be, deserves to be thanked for the great profusion of poetry, some of it real excellence, to which his article has given rise. We have quoted somewhat largely from these productions, and it is now about time to close our columns against what some people may consider an intolerable influx of verse on one subject. Before doing so, however, we shall give one other specimen of the "Jessie Brown" poetry, which might almost form a volume by itself.

The Pipes at Lucknow.

Fierce strife in all the sounding town, and round the feeble towers,
That hold young babes and hoary heads, and beauty's fairest flowers;
And louder swells the shouts of foes, and higher still and higher,
All day the war-cloud rolls aloft,—all night the pillar'd fire.

Like those dry bones of ancient writ, the few defenders stand,
The fire has left the dauntless eye, it might hath left the hand;
But better than all numbers, and better than the sword,
The living corse moves beneath the spirit of the Lord.
They gaze—no helper cometh; no rescue seemeth nigh;
And thicker broods the horrid smoke, and darker frowns the sky;

And solemnly and fearfully upon the ear there falls
The booming of the heavy guns, the crashing of the walls.

But the combat thickens, and the battle closes round
With rapid roll of musketry, and trembling of the ground;
And low and stern amidst the din is borne along the breeze,

A sharp, shrill droning, as the voice of angry swarms of bees.

Hush! 'Tis a woman's sudden scream! 'Oh joy, they come!' they come!

'I hear the bonnie Highland pipes, the Saxons' rolling drum.

'Hold your own, ye gallant men—a few short moments more.'

Shall see your foemen scattered as the breakers on the shore.'"

They listened; all around them swells the thunder of the fight.

The groans and shrieks and shouts and yells that tear the startled sight.

They hear the deep guns bellow, but they hear not through the trees

The sharp, shrill droning as the threats of angry swarms of bees.

"Ye dinnae haer it, comrade? No! no! I dinnae rave; Full well I know the distant voice of those that come to save!"

"Ah, oft in happier days I've heard and kenned the Campbell's ca'

"And good Macgregor's slogan fierce, the grandest of them a'."

They look! and far right and left the battle clouds are broke,

And ridge on ridge of dark blue steel gleams coldly through the smoke.

And sharper still, and shriller yet is borne upon the breeze

The drone of the Highland pipes, like angry swarms of bees.

And, as the mountain torrent, when its icy chain hath gone,

Sweeps with roar of angry wave and crash of rock and stone,

They burst through struggling foes, they burst the flames of traitors' seas,

The sturdy hearts, the stout right hands of bonnie Scotland's sons.

Oh, flourish long, the good old land! Though rugged to the view,

Not England's gallant soul can boast of sons more brave and true;

And long he where Scotland's cliffs are washed by foaming seas,

The drone of the Highland pipes, like angry swarms of bees.

The Story Teller.

THE VILLAGE WEDDING.

BY MISS MITFORD.

The sweetest flower of the garden, the joy and pride of Dame Wilson's heart, was her daughter Hannah. Well might she be proud of her. At sixteen, Hannah Wilson was, beyond a doubt, the prettiest girl in the village, and the best—Her beauty was quite in a different style from the country rose bud—far more choice and rare. Its chief characteristic was modesty. A light, youthful figure, exquisitely graceful and rapid in all its movements; springy, elastic, and buoyant as a bird, and almost as shy; a fair, innocent face, with downcast eyes, and smiles and blushes combining and going almost with her thoughts; a low, soft voice, sweet even in its monosyllables; a delicate and bride-like as she looked in her white gown, and lace mob, in a room light and simple; and tasteful and elegant, with nothing fine except some beautiful green house plants. Her reception was a charming picture of sweetness and modesty, a little more respectful than usual, and far more shamed! Poor thing! her cheeks must have pained her. But this was the only difference. In everything else she is still the same Hannah, and has lost none of her old habits of kindness and gentleness. She was making a handsome matronly cap, evidently for her mother, and spoke, even with tears, of her new father's goodness to her and Susan. She would fetch the cake and wine herself, and would gather, in spite of all remonstrances, some of her choicest flowers as a parting posy. She did, indeed, just hint at her troubles with visitors and servants—how strange and sad it was!—seemed distressed at ringing the bell, and visibly shrank from the sound of a double knock. But in spite of these calamities, Hannah is a happy woman.

The generosity of the poor is always a very real and fine thing; they give what they want; and Hannah was, of all poor people, the most generous. She loved to give; it was her pleasure, her luxury. Rosy-cheeked apples, plums, with the bloom on them, morsages of clover and blossomed myrtle; these were offerings which Hannah delighted to bring to those she loved, or those who had shown her kindness; whilst to her neighbors as needed attentions more than fruit and flowers, she would give her time, her assistance, her skill; for Hannah inherited her mother's dexterity in feminine employments, with something of her father's versatile power.

Besides being an excellent laundress she was accomplished in all the arts of the needle, millinery, dress-making, and plain work; a capital cutter, an incomparable mender, and endowed with a gift of altering, which made old things better than new. As a dairy woman, and a rearer of poultry, she was equally successful; none of her turkeys and ducks ever died of neglect or carelessness; or, to use the phrase of the poultry yard on such occasions, of "ill-luck." Hannah's fowls never dreamed of sliding out of the world in such an ignoble way; they all lived to be killed, to make a noise at their deaths, as chickens should do.

She was a famous "scholar!" kept accounts, wrote bills, read letters, and answered them;

From the London Family Herald.

A NEW STORY OF AN OLD STYLE.

That old style! It stood on the outskirts of the village, and was the trying place of the lads and lasses of Towerville when our grandmothers were young. Every child in the village knew the old style as a resting-place when there was a party of little ones returning from nutting or berrying. Every young beauty had her own experience of its suitability for a trying-place. The matrons loved it from old associations and recollections of the time when their own hearts, then young, leaped to the music of some loved voice, and felt the pressure of some manly hand, as the speaker leaned over them, sitting on the old style. Truly, it had been repaired again and again; for the villagers loved it, and kept it in order. Still, the old stones were there, and it was the old spot.

Pretty Nellie Greyson, as she sat there, one afternoon, pulling to pieces the last bouquet left there for her by some love-lorn farmer's son, thought sadly of the many times she had hastened to the old style with her handsomelove, the guest of the village, George Lawton. Poor Nellie! George was the son of an opulent merchant, a man of wealth and influence, and had been sent to the country to recruit his health at his cousin's, Nellie's mother.

It did not take long for the handsome, talented young Lawton to win the simple, trusting heart of the lovely village girl. Nellie had received a sound English education; but to this was added no accomplishment. Her soft, sweet voice spoke no foreign tongue; her pretty white hands could call out music from no instrument; and although she could dance the simple figures of the country dance, she knew no rules for a stately carriage, or the most finished manner of receiving a guest. George taught her French. Nellie was changed; and he did not recognize cousin Nellie. As she stood under the light, leaning gracefully against the piano, chatting with a group of admirers, her blue silk dress fitting her small but beautiful figure to perfection, her rich abundant hair falling from a jeweled comb in a profusion of curls on her white, uncovered throat and shoulders, jewels glittering on her arms and bosom, she looked most unlike the little country lass whose hair was confined up to her throat.

"Who is that, mother, the lady in blue?" asked George.

"That is Nellie Greyson, as she sat there, the old style," said the songster, as the group of admirers moved away, listening, and yet seeming to listen, to his tender whispers.

The shrinking grace of that bending figure was not to be mistaken.

"Nellie!" and she went aside with me, and a rapid series of questions and answers conveyed the story of the courtship.

"William is," said Hannah, "a hatter in B—. He had walked over one evening to see the cricketing, and then he came in. His mother liked him. Everybody liked her William—and she had promised—she was going—it was wrong?"

"Oh, no! and where are you to live?"

"William has got a house in B. He lives with Mr. Smith, the rich hatter in the market place and Mr. Smith spoke of him—oh, so well! But William will not tell me where our house is, suppose in some narrow street or lane, which he is afraid I shall not like, as our common is so pleasant. He little thinks—anywhere—"

She stopped suddenly, but her blush and clasped hands finished the sentence, "anywhere with him!"

"And when is the happy day?"

"On Monday fortnight, marian," said the bridegroom elect, advancing with the little clerk to summon Hannah to the parlor, "the earliest day possible."

"Did she tell you where they should dine?"

"No, madam; I forgot to ask."

"I can tell you," said the master of the house, with somewhat of good humored importance in his air; somewhat of the look of a man who having kept a secret as long as it was necessary, is not sorry to get rid of the burthen. I can tell you, in London."

"In London?"

"Yes. Your little favorite has been in high luck. She has married the only son of one of the best and richest men in B—. Mr. Smith, the great hatter. It is quite a romance," continued he; "William Smith walked over one pleasant evening to see a match at cricket. He saw pretty Hannah, and forgot to look at the cricketers. After having grieved his fill, he approached to address her, and the little damsel was off like a bird. William did not like her less for that, and thought of her the more. He had turned her silly little head, had given most decided encouragement to Mr. Sparks; and he felt fully welcome as he took a seat beside her on the stile.

"Good afternoon, Miss Nellie," he said, trying to detain the hand she pettishly drew from his grasp. "Nellie," he added, in an altered tone, "don't be cross! It is so long since I have had a chance to see you alone, Nellie."

"Cross!" Nellie could get no further. She was almost ready, the silly little beauty, to cry, as the contrast between her last visit to the stile with George, and this one, struck her.

"There, don't cry, Nellie!" said her lover. "I love you as dearly as I ever did, but you see you've been so taken up with your town beau lately, that I could not get a chance to talk to you. You were trying to come to him in learning French and singing; but it is of no use. The town ladies can paint and draw, play the piano, and some of them can write poetry; but they can't make such cakes as you can Nellie, or keep a house so nicely, and you are doing him harm rather than good."

Nellie saw her power now. It was a long wooing, for it was not until poor George was as desperately in love as she had been herself, that Nellie gave him even so much as a smile of encouragement. Whenever he spoke of her, he little innocent look of surprise was too much for him; and accustomed to have his attentions courted, he was often on the point of leaving her, and giving up the pursuit. Then Nellie was a belle; the bouquets, invitations to ride, and visit the opera, and *billet-doux* she accepted from other admirers, drove George wild with jealousies. She had, too, the most provoking way of referring to the hand she pettishly drew from his grasp. "Nellie," he added, in an altered tone, "don't be cross! It is so long since I have had a chance to see you alone, Nellie."

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Again the bell rang, and again the boy left the sofa, and went to the sitting-room door.

"It's father!" And he went gliding down stairs.

"Ah, Richard!" was the kindly greeting, as Mr. Gordon took the hand of his boy. "But what's the matter, my son? You don't look happy."

"Won't you come in here?" And Richard drew his father into the library. Mr. Gordon sat down, still holding Richard's hand.

"You are in trouble, my son. What has happened?"

The eyes of Richard filled with tears as he looked into his father's face. He tried to answear, but his lips quivered. Then he turned away, and opening the door of the cabinet, brought out the fragments of a broken statuette, which had been sent home only the day before, and set them on a table before his father, over whose countenance came instantly a shadow of regret.

"Who did this, my son?" was asked in an even voice.

"Pee-wee!" It was the boy's mother who spoke now, for the first time. In an undertone, she added: "You are wrong. Richard is suffering quite enough, and you are doing him harm rather than good."

"Hush, will you!" ejaculated the boy, excited by anger.

"I must confess," replied aunt Phoebe, "that I am a little unwholesome discipline of the nursery. If you speak of would not be out of place. If you were my child, I am very sure you wouldn't escape."

"I'm not your child: I don't want to be. Father's good, and loves me."

"If your father is so good, and loves you so well, you must be a very ungrateful or a very unconsiderate boy. His goodness don't seem to help you much."

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MAINE FARMER, - - - - - EXTRA.

A CIRCULAR,

FROM THE STATE LAND OFFICE, DESCRIPTIVE OF THE PUBLIC LANDS OF MAINE, 1858.

INTRODUCTORY.—In order to answer the numerous calls and inquiries addressed to the Land Office, for information respecting the quality, situation, and extent of our "settling lands," the terms and conditions of sale, the character of the soil, climate of the country, condition of roads, distances to market, modes of conveyance, &c., &c., necessity seems to require at my hands the preparation of a Circular embracing the above information.

In the preparation of this Circular, I shall attempt little more than brief compilation, from the Statutes, Public Documents, and Records of this Office, of such facts and observations as are deemed necessary to answer the demands of the public.

While printed documents have been for years accumulating in the archives of the State, many of which contain valuable information relative to our public lands, still it would seem from the inquiries constantly made, that this information has not been properly disseminated among the masses of our citizens, the laboring classes, whom it would more essentially benefit.

Among these valuable documents, and from which I shall take the liberty to make such extracts as are deemed important to my present purpose, I would refer the reader to the valuable Reports of Dr. E. Holmes and Dr. C. T. Jackson on the Geological, and Agricultural capabilities of the Aroostook region; the Reports of former Land Agents; and the late valuable Report of S. L. Goodale, Esq., Secretary of the Board of Agriculture.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE.—In the Revised Statutes of Maine, Chapter 5, may be found all the provisions of law in relation to

The Sale of Lands for Settlement.

SEC. 23. Out of townships located and designated for settlement, the land agent shall, from time to time, select, not exceeding ten in a year, to be offered for sale in lots for settlement; and publish a list of them and of the townships offered for sale and settlement in former years, in which lands still remain for sale, in some paper in each county in the State in which any paper is published, once a week for three months, within six months after the selection is so made, with the substance of so much of this chapter as relates to the terms and conditions of the sale and settlement of such lands.

SEC. 24. In townships so selected, in which suitable roads have not been located, the land agent shall cause such roads to be located as the public interest and the accommodation of the future settlement require.

SEC. 25. The price of the settling lots shall be fifty cents per acre, for which the purchaser shall give three notes, payable in one, two and three years, in labor on the roads in said township, under the direction of the land agent. The land agent shall thereupon give him a certificate, stating that he has become a purchaser of the lot or lots therein described, and that he will be entitled to a deed thereof, when he complies with the requirements of law.

The certificate of the person appointed by the land agent to superintend the laying out of the labor on the roads, shall be evidence of the payment of the notes. Only one lot not exceeding two hundred acres, shall be granted to the same person.

SEC. 26. Beside the payment of the notes, every such purchaser shall be required, within two years from the date of his certificate, to establish his residence on his lot, and within four years from such date to clear, on each lot, not less than fifteen acres, ten at least of which shall be well laid down to grass; and to build a comfortable dwelling house on it.

SEC. 27. If the purchaser fails to perform any of the duties required of him, or to pay his notes, he forfeits all right to the land; and the land agent may dispose of it to another person.

SEC. 28. The land agent shall appoint some suitable person or persons in the vicinity to superintend the location of settlers, the payment of their road labor, and the performance of their several duties.

SEC. 29. Whoever purchases a lot of wild land of the State, not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres, and complies with the condition of purchase, may hold it with the improvements thereon, free from attachment and levy on execution, while he remains in actual possession thereof. The value so exempted shall not exceed one thousand dollars, to be set off to the owner in such portions of the lot as he directs, by the appraiser appointed to levy an execution, the same as real estate is set off and appraised on execution.

SEC. 30. On the decease of such purchaser, such lot and the improvements shall descend to his children, subject to his widow's right of dower, and shall not be liable to be sold for the payment of his debts, except in case his other property is not sufficient for the payment thereof; and, in that case, his children shall have the occupancy and improvement thereof, subject to the widow's dower, until, the youngest surviving child attains the age of eighteen years. The remainder of the estate, after the life estate of the widow, and after the youngest surviving child attains said age, may be sold as other estates of deceased persons for the payment of such debts as the other estate of the deceased is not sufficient to pay. If he dies without issue, such lot shall descend and be disposed of as any other property.

SEC. 31. No such purchaser, having a wife, shall convey his said lot by deed, unless his wife joins therein, and acknowledges it to be her free act and deed before a proper magistrate.

SEC. 33. The land agent may sell at public or private sale for such price as he considers fair and for the interest of the State all tracts of land owned by the State on islands or in incorporated towns.

Under the provisions of this law, there have already been located and designated for settlement, and by former land agents selected and published for sale, the following townships, viz :

Township.	Acres.	Acres Unsold.	Remarks.
11, R. 1	11,520	6,747	On Houlton and Baring road.
B, R. 1	11,520	10,002	Mills and Post Office.
C, R. 1	2,040	22,610	Lotted in 1855-6.
D, R. 1	23,676	5,499	Fort Fairfield, Post Office, and Mills.
E, R. 1	23,040	21,760	Mills on the Lineston Stream.
F, R. 2	23,040	14,339	Presque Isle, much settled.
G, R. 2	19,665	19,510	Mills—not all lotted.
H, R. 2	14,633	3,157	Lyndon Post Office, Mills, &c.
I, R. 2	23,040	23,040	Partly lotted in 1856.
12, R. 3	23,040	16,017	Lotted in 1843—settled.
13, R. 3	23,040	23,040	Salmon Brook, Plantation, Mills, &c.
4, R. 4	23,040	22,157	Lotted in 1855-6.
9, R. 4	23,040	21,312	Lotted in 1839—old Mills.
12, R. 4	23,040	22,880	North half lotted in 1855—Castle Hill P. O. On the Aroostook Road.
3, R. 5	22,111	21,117	Crystal Pl. Mills, &c.
4, R. 5	23,040	6,404	On Aroostook Road—Moro Post Office.
6, R. 5	23,040	2,535	Lotted in 1839. Li me quarry.
8, R. 5	23,010	13,093	Masardis, Post Office, &c.
10, R. 5	23,040	15,777	Ashland, lotted in 1839.
11, R. 5	23,010	9,205	On Aroostook Road.
5, R. 6	23,040	14,198	"Ox-bow," Umguelous Mills.
9, R. 6	23,040	11,428	Mills—Lotted in 1839.
11, R. 6	23,040	2,530	Portage Lake Plantation.
13, R. 6	23,040	1,413	

In addition to the foregoing, there were located and designated for settlement, by a Resolve of the last Legislature, the following townships, viz :—Letter G., R. 1; L. and M., R. 2; East half of 2, R. 5; and 5, R. 3; all west from the east line of the State.

These townships will be lotted and ready for the market, as fast as the future wants of settlers shall require. The field notes and plans of all the townships which have been lotted for settlement, are in the Land Office, open for inspection, where all information within the means of the Agent, to secure to individuals and companies the benefits and privileges intended by the Legislature for *actual settlers*, will be cheerfully given.

It will be seen by an inspection of the map, that, in designating townships for settlement, the Legislature has, from time to time, selected most, if not all of them in the county of Aroostook.

Still, out of the two million acres of land now owned by the State, less than one half of the whole quantity, (or about 984,000 acres) lies in that county. In Somerset, the State has over a half million of acres, and in Piscataquis about half as much more,—the remainder lying mostly in the counties of Franklin, Oxford, and Penobscot. A portion of these lands, especially of those in Piscataquis, will at no distant day, be sought after for purposes of agriculture. New settlements are already springing up in the vicinity of the Chesuncook and Chamberlain lakes, and a grant of land in aid of building mills for the settlers, was made by the last Legislature. But roads must be opened into that section of the State, before the current of emigration will set very strongly in that direction.

Aroostook is now the main point of attraction, where, with the unsettled lands now owned by proprietors, we have a territory nearly as extensive as the whole Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and which is capable of sustaining a vast population. I find by official Reports, that the first decided and efficient move towards the development of the Aroostook region was in 1838, when, under the direction of the Board of Internal Improvements, an exploration and survey of the Aroostook valley was made by Dr. Ezekiel Holmes, in order to ascertain the practicability of establishing a water communication between the tributaries of the Penobscot and St. John rivers, with a reference also to the topography and agricultural capabilities of this region. Dr. Charles T. Jackson was also engaged the same year, in making a geological survey of the public lands, and their published Reports afforded the first reliable information given to the public, of the character and resources of this district, and, at the time, attracted general and favorable attention.

The following extracts from Dr. Jackson's Reports of the Geology of the Public Lands, will show the

Value of these Lands for Settlement.

Speaking of the Aroostook country, the Doctor says:—

"The average width of the alluvial region on the Aroostook river, cannot be less than six or eight miles, and in some places it is much wider. It is a well wooded region, and is the best settling land in the State, equaling in fertility the famed region of the Western States, and capable even under a less congenial climate, of producing crops of wheat and other grain, fully equal in abundance with any soils of which we have any records. We here found a yellow loam of a fine kind, derived from the limestone rocks, and luxuriant in its produce, and in some places covered to the depth of four or five inches by a black vegetable mould. This yellow loam is remarkable for the tall rank grass called 'blue joint,' which skirts the margin of the river, and from four to five feet high, and extremely luxuriant."

"NATURAL GROWTH.—The forest trees are of a mixed growth, but the sugar maples are most abundant, and are of gigantic size. Elms, white birch, black and white ash abound. The soft wood grows mostly on the low lands, while the uplands in the rear are densely crowded with hard wood trees, among which are scattered magnificent pines. On the Aroostook, it will be remarked, that very few if any hemlock trees exist,—cedars taking their place, being mixed with spruce, fir, yellow birch, and various other kinds of hard wood, which occur, scattering, some of the most lofty pine trees ever beheld."

"There are evident reasons why this should be the case, for the richest soils are always most crowded with a mixed growth, and the Aroostook soils are mostly of limestone alluvium, and are exceedingly rich and good settling lands, remarkable for their heavy crops of wheat, rye and other grains, and are certainly richer, as an agricultural district, than any other portion of Maine."

"MINERALS, &c.—Towards the conclusion of his report, Dr. Jackson says:—

"The researches of the present season have brought to light many important resources in the public domain which were before unknown. Beds of iron ore of immense magnitude, favorably situated for advantageous operations, occur on the Aroostook, and all the marked characteristics of the regular anthracite coal formation exhibit themselves over a great belt of country from the Sebois to the Aroostook and St. John, and extend to Temiscouata lake, near the frontier of Canada."

"It will be at once perceived, that the country which we have explored is a most valuable territory, possessing every advantage required by settlers. Heavy timber offers a reward to the enterprising lumber dealer. A rich soil, capable of producing an average crop of twenty bushels of wheat to the acre, and in some cases producing from thirty to forty bushels, offers an ample reward to the husbandman. Inexhaustible supplies of limestone, valuable both for building materials and for agriculture, vast and inexhaustible mines of rich iron ore, and interminable forests which will furnish an abundance of charcoal, required for the manufacture of the finest kinds of iron and steel—the country presents every natural advantage that might be required to call forth the enterprise and industry of the farmer and manufacturer."

The Report of the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, before referred to, seems fully to corroborate the foregoing statements in relation to the

Situation and Quality of our Settling Lands.

Mr. Goodale, the Secretary, having in the summer of 1857, reconnoitered the settled portions of Aroostook county, in accordance with his official duties, says:—

"The portion of our unsettled territory which is believed at this time to present the greatest inducements to immigrants, is what is known as the Valley of the Aroostook, together with a tract fifty miles, more or less, south of this, embracing the five easternmost ranges of townships, and which is drained in part by other tributaries of the St. John, but principally by those of the Penobscot.

"The greater part of this territory, embracing upwards of two thousand square miles, is what is usually denominated settling land, although lumbering has been largely, and is still, to a considerable extent, carried on in some sections of it; in other portions no more timber now exists than will be needed for building purposes. The land throughout is uniformly good; in some of these townships scarce a lot of one hundred and sixty acres can be found which is not capable of being made a good farm, and but little waste land is believed to exist in any of them.

"The surface is more or less undulating, the easterly ranges of townships being less hilly, and more free from stone, than is usual in the State at large; the ranges west of these are more broken in surface, sometimes hilly, and with frequent boulders and out-crops of limestone, slate, &c.

"Some townships in the first range are so free from stones that even a surface for wells, cellars, &c., is not always readily obtained.

"The soil is various, but consists mainly of a deep, rich, hazel loam, and is usually underlaid with a sub-stratum of limestone, sometimes, but to less extent, with slate, the depth varying from two to six or more feet. The soil seems to have originated mostly from the decomposition of limestone and slate. Beds of clay are occasionally found by digging at a moderate depth in various localities, and probably exist in sufficient quantity for building purposes. At No. 11, 5th Range, [now Ashland,] bricks have been made in some quantity. Lime also has been burned in the same vicinity."

First rate lime has been manufactured in No. 8, 5th Range, and in D, 1st Range. Quarries of marble, of fine quality, have also been discovered in the vicinity of the Aroostook river.

Mr. Goodale further says:—

"There is more or less interval bordering the streams, and a still larger extent of such as is, doubtless, of alluvial origin, but more elevated than what usually passes among us for interval land. That which predominates chiefly is what is ordinarily called 'strong hard wood soil,' and good for crops."

"In the vicinity of Houlton, the soil varies in character, some being lighter and some more tenacious, and here the average depth of plowing is less than in other sections, being from three to six inches only."

"Thirty or forty miles north of Houlton, as at Fort Fairfield and vicinity, the first plowing is often eight to ten inches deep, and with the most gratifying results. The soil generally exhibits unmistakable evidences of great inherent fertility, and of the land at large, it may be said, as of another in olden story, in it 'thou mayest eat bread without scarceness.'

"The natural fertility of the soil is also shown in a satisfactory manner by the actual thrift and prosperity of the settlers, many of whom came here a few years ago, poor and destitute, and some seriously embarrassed, but are now in easy circumstances."

"CULTURE.—This is the great bugbear in the minds of many, as an obstacle to successful farming anywhere in Maine; and Aroostook, being the most northerly county in the State, is often deemed more objectionable for this reason. But while it has its peculiarities, I failed to see cause to deem it the worst."

"It is an exceedingly healthy climate. Upon this point, I cannot do better than to quote from the late statistical report on the sickness and mortality in the army of the United States, compiled from the records of the Surgeon General's office, as the testimony of the surgeon stationed in Aroostook in 1844-5, when their reports were made, is both disinterested and conclusive, and reveals a remarkable freedom from pulmonary disease so common in most sections of New England."

"From Fort Kent we have the following:—

"The region adjacent to Fort Kent is probably one of the healthiest within the limits of the United States, and though rigorous, the climate seems to be productive of the most robust health. Fevers, and other diseases of a malignant origin, are unknown; and other acute diseases are by no means common occurrence."

"This surgeon says of another, who had better opportunities than himself, that he not only never saw a case of consumption in the country, but that some inmates of the garrison who had suspicious symptoms when they came into it, recovered from them entirely."

"The children in and near the garrison have generally enjoyed the best of health, and have been afflicted with none of those complaints so common in warmer climates. It has been frequently made the subject of remark by the mothers, how vast the difference in this respect between Fort Kent and their former posts."

In another place the Secretary says:—

"The term during which cattle required to be fed from winter stores of for-

age, proved shorter than was anticipated, the autumnal feed being said to be abundant and good until the snow fell, and as soon as this disappeared in spring cattle could find plenty of fresh and nutritious grasses. Some of the residents who had been familiar with agricultural pursuits in other States, assured me that in this regard Aroostook possesses decided advantages over southern Maine or Massachusetts. The value of such pasture will be readily appreciated by every practical farmer."

"A very noticeable peculiarity of the climate of Aroostook, is the exemption hitherto enjoyed from injurious droughts. Whether, and to what extent, this exemption may be attributed to the existence of primeval forests, and whether it may be expected to continue after the woodman's axe has done its work, may be a matter of some uncertainty; but the probability that they are intimately connected, the one with the other, adds force to the well known and abundant arguments against indiscriminate waste and strip, and in favor of retaining sufficient wood for fuel, timber, and especially for shelter to their homes, fields, orchards, cattle and crops."

"PRODUCTION.—All the small grains thrive well. Wheat is not so extensively grown as formerly, the fly, or midge, (commonly called weevil,) rust and mildew, being found serious drawbacks upon its profitable culture. I was informed by Hon. Nathaniel Blake of Portage Lake, (number thirteen, in sixth range,) that the wheat-fly had never troubled the grain there, and that he usually reaps twenty-five bushels per acre; but this was the only instance of entire extinction found, although at Patten and some other places, injury from the midge had been far less than from rust."

"Mr. Blake also stated of his locality, that frosts were usually two weeks or more later than at number eleven, some ten or twelve miles south of it.

"Mr. J. W. Haines, an old settler from Kennebec county,

Presque Isle, one hundred and fifty-five miles, at about thirty dollars per ton, and from Bangor to Ashland, one hundred and forty-five miles, by the Aroostook road, at thirty-five to forty dollars per ton. Such rates add so materially to the cost of supplies brought thither, that it is no wonder if a cheaper mode of communication be sought. This, the easterly ranges of townships enjoy for so much of the year as the river St. John is navigable, which may average about five months. Freight is brought from the city of St. John to Tobeique, within six miles of Fort Fairfield, at a rate varying from eight to eighteen dollars per ton; by steam to Fredericton, ninety miles, at all times when the river is not closed by ice, and when the depth of water serves; also by steamer to Tobeique, otherwise by tow boats, from Fredericton or Woodstock, up. From Tobeique to Presque Isle is nineteen miles, and twenty-four miles thence to Ashland, and here I was assured by the traders and lumber-men, that at the present time, not one twentieth part of the goods sold at, or of the supplies distributed from, this point, were brought thither from Bangor, whereas, formerly, nearly the whole were. They now procure them via the St. John, and, including some forty miles or more of land carriage over a hard road, at a cost for freight usually of about one half the charge from Bangor.

An inspection of the map of this region will show that its natural channel for communication is toward, and through New Brunswick; and it would appear that the artificial channels which we have made to connect it with other sections of our own State, have not proved good enough to compete successfully with the St. Johns.

The boundary line, never heretofore a practical one, owing to the absence of communication, has recently been put into operation, having little more than a nominal one; and the extent and intimacy of communication will probably soon be greatly increased by means of the St. Andrews and Quebec Railroad, now partially constructed and vigorously prosecuted, and which it is anticipated may be open for use as far as Woodstock or Richmond, near Houlton, in the course of another year. The southern terminus of this road, St. Andrews, lies just opposite Robbinson, midway between Eastport and Calais, and the track, when completed, will run for some distance run close to our border.

(Under date of November 1, 1857, a correspondent writing from Fort Fairfield, says:

"The St. Andrews and Quebec Railroad is now opened forty miles; it will be opened by next September to Richmond and Woodstock, and be at Richmond, six miles from Houlton. When completed, it will run along near the boundary line the whole length of the east side of Aroostook county, and will be very convenient of access from the present settled parts of the country."

"Is there any other way in which Aroostook can be saved to Maine, except either to annex New Brunswick, or intercede her in the matter of facilities for communication?"

"The idea of a satisfactory connection with the Atlantic seaboard, connected with a just appreciation of the great results which would flow therefrom, is by no means a novel one, but has been strongly urged in years past by far-seeing men; for example, in the Report of Hon. E. L. Hanlin, as Land Agent in 1839, we have the following:

"Upon a glance at the map, it will be seen that the fertile valley of the St. John river extends through the whole breadth of the northern part of the St. John, and with the Aroostook valley, includes about one-third part of our whole territory. The natural outlet of this country for trade and intercourse is through the Province of New Brunswick.

To connect this region with the Atlantic seaboard, within the limits of our own State, it will be seen that the topography of the country distinctly marks out two great avenues of communication through the valleys of the Kennebec and Penobscot.

That our seaboard will be connected with the St. John waters, sooner or later, by these two routes, either by canal or railroad, or both in part, there can be no doubt in the minds of any who have even a moderate knowledge of the resources of the States, who comprises the feasibility of opening these communications, and of their great practical importance in diverting the trade of this region from a foreign market, and increasing the wealth and population not only of the St. John valley, but of the whole State. The development of the agricultural resources of this valley would give a sustaining power to our commercial capital on the seaboard, a healthy impulse to manufactures, and would not fail in advancing the State at once to the position in the Federal Union, to which her natural advantages so justly entitle her.

It is evident that the citizens of this State have not heretofore been fully impressed of the great importance of a direct communication which would, at the time of the separation, for Maine to acquire of Massachusetts her interests in the public lands, was suffered to pass unsecured by us, and the appropriations heretofore made for the construction of roads towards the interior, and for public improvements, seem to have been reluctantly yielded, instead of being the spontaneous acts of the whole Legislature, and as indicating a spirit and feeling worthy of our great resources. So long as the public mind is possessed of doubts and fears, and misgivings, and until there is manifest an honest feeling of State pride and a just confidence in our own means and resources, it will be in vain to undertake any public work of magnitude with any rational hope of success."

I am aware that serious objections are entertained by many against all works of internal improvement, when undertaken by the State, and where it becomes necessary to borrow money. It cannot, however, be forgotten that such objections have been raised in other States, particularly in New York and Pennsylvania. When the former State commenced upon the great work of the Erie canal, it was denounced as the "big-ditch" that would never be filled, and that the enterprise in part was visionary and chimerical, and at least one hundred years in advance of the age? The result has shown how much this portion of the community has been mistaken, and I can entertain no doubt that a judicious system of public works on the part of the State, having reference to the settlement and cultivation of the public lands, would, in the end, be as signalized as have been the public works in other States."

Mr. Goodale adds:—In looking back over the eighteen years since the above was passed, we have hardly doubted today, that had the bold suggestion of a railroad from the Aroostook to the Penobscot met with public favor, and been carried out at an early day, that, whatever might have been its success merely in the light of a pecuniary investment, the public domain would have greatly increased in value, and the whole State would have gained in population, wealth and power, with a persistence and rapidity to which we are now utter strangers. [Note.—Perhaps no desirable road in New England, is there a favorable route more distinctly marked by nature, than for this, viz: by the east bank of the Penobscot from Bangor to Mattawamkeag Point; thence toward the Forks of the Mattawamkeag, near where the Baskahagan comes in; thence by a natural valley to near the origin of Presque Isle river, and following its valley to near its junction with the Aroostook.]"

Mr. Goodale further says:—

*In estimating the comparative advantages of emigration to the new lands of our own State, and to those of the great west, there are many considerations to be taken into account. Land may be had cheaply in either case, but cheaper here than there, in fact, almost for nothing, as the half dollar per acre which the State asks, may be easily paid in making the settler's own roads—roads which he would have to make for his own convenience, if not thus aid by the State. But in going west, cheapness ends with the price of land. The settler may get enough in a dollar and a quarter per acre *provided* he go far enough from roads and rivers to find such as are already taken up; but house, barn and fences are as necessary as land, and when he proceeds to their erection, he finds timber can only be obtained at a high price, usually at considerable distance, often having to be carted several days' journey. Other building materials, bricks, lime, stone, nails, in fact, all bear high rates. Labor, especially mechanical labor, is costly and scarce. These considerations alone, leaving out many others, neither few nor trifling, (as the scarcity of water, and its bad quality, when obtained; theague, prostrating fevers, &c.) I found to have proved operative in deciding the question in the minds of some residents of Aroostook, who had visited the West for the purpose of personal examination, and deliberate balancing of advantages. They came home, content to remain, *fully satisfied* of the superiority of a residence here, and congratulating themselves that they went first to look before selling out, and thus taking a step so easily or cheaply recalled—satisfied, that although a man possessing abundant means, might there obtain higher rates of interest, and find more tempting opportunities for speculation—the man with little besides strong hands and a willing mind had a better prospect here!"*

As corroborative of the foregoing statement, the following letter, published in a recent number of the "Aroostook Pioneer," a newspaper printed at Presque Isle, is to the point:—

"Mr. EDITOR:—I saw in one of your papers, which I received from my brother, a piece headed 'Sources of Prosperity in Maine.' It spoke particularly of the endless drain of population, and the injurious results of the same. Sir, I feel that it is true. I left that State myself some years since. I have been since then over a large portion of our country, and I wish to give my young friends in Maine some advice. I have been in all of the western States but four, and those I have seen are the ones principally to which our young men emigrate, and I assure you that I have never seen that place yet where a young man could do any better than he could in Maine."

As for farming, the land in some of our western States, it is true, is more productive, but is it not as well for a farmer to raise one half as much produce, and get double the price for it, as to raise a large quantity and get less?

I would advise all my young friends to remain at home and be contented by their own firesides. The peace, prosperity and happiness of our State depend upon it.

It is true that she may have some disadvantages; her rocky, hilly soil, (in the older counties of the State,) cannot be worked with the same ease as that of the other States of the Union, but the industry of the people more than make up for that.

W.M. F. DELAITE.

Mr. Delaite was a native of Sebec, Piscataquis county, Me., and with his father and brothers was among the early pioneers of Aroostook, where his brothers still reside.

The above letter comes from a highly respectable source, and is entitled to full credit.

In conclusion, the undersigned would say, that he has been engaged for a large portion of time, for the last twenty-five years, in surveying and exploring the wilderness lands not only in the County of Aroostook, and elsewhere in this State, (both for Maine and Massachusetts)—but among the Mineral lands of New Hampshire, and the Timber and bottom lands of Canada West. I trust, therefore, that I shall not be deemed egotistical in saying that I feel myself qualified, by long and practical observation, to speak with confidence and certainty of the fertility of the soil—its capacities for production, and the great advantages it holds out to those who intend to pursue the business of farming.

I am not interested, directly or indirectly in an acre of wild land, except the wood lot attached to my farm in Corinth, in the County of Penobscot, and have no motive or desire except to promote and advance the prosperity of our noble State, and the diffusion of reliable information, to induce thousands of the young men of Maine and New England in search of homes, to select and occupy the fertile lands in the valley of the Aroostook.

I can, from personal experience and observation, bear my humble testimony to the accuracy and truthfulness of the representations contained in the foregoing extracts from the Reports of Dr. JACKSON, Dr. HOLMES, the Hon. S. L. GOODALE, and others.

No where in the Northern or Western States is land offered at so low a rate—no where is there a more healthy climate, with a rich soil, a plenty of fine timber, and good water.

The settler is surrounded with actual farmers, (for the State sells to no others,) with schools, and the advantages of New England Society.

The soil is adapted to the production of as large crops of wheat, rye, barley, oats, buckwheat, and potatoes, as any other land in the East or the West.

Droughts, which are so often destructive in the West, if they ever occur in Aroostook, are very rare, and the production of grass is immense.

No country is superior to it, in its capacity for the finest pasture.

From a view of all the facts in relation to these lands, it is believed that an uncommon opportunity is now offered, for young men especially, to obtain good farms "without money," and almost "without price."

In the West all the best locations are occupied, and the price of land in those localities, is from twenty to fifty dollars per acre. In Aroostook, the roads are opened to the lands, and the best locations are, and will be ready for those who choose to occupy them, at once. Let me say to those who are going to the Aroostook to explore for the purpose of locating themselves, 'Don't be in a hurry! Exercise cool and dispassionate judgment, and examine all the circumstances for and against this or that locality. A man in going there to settle on *new land*, should have a little capital to help himself with, till he can make a clearing and obtain a crop, and a large fund of Enterprise, Industry and Economy.—With these last requisites, and a good constitution, he can hardly fail of success.'

In going from Bangor to the Valley of the Aroostook, a person may take the daily Stage to Mattawamkeag Point, for \$3,—or to the same place by rail-road and steam-boat, (during the season of its running,) for \$2 38—thence to Houlton for \$3 and thence to Presque Isle for \$2, more. Or from Mattawamkeag to No. 11,

(Ashland,) via Patten, the stage fare is about the same as, by the former route, to Presque Isle.

To show the cost of clearing land in Aroostook, I will here introduce the following letter of a well-known and extensive farmer of that County:—

Noah Barker, Esq., Land Agent, Bangor, Me.
Dear Sir:—In answer to your query in regard to clearing land in Aroostook,—to which you will see enclosed, I would say that it costs on an average ten dollars per acre, viz.: two dollars to fell the trees; then to do justice to the operator clearing said land, the limbs should be lopped off before the fire goes through, which generally costs about one dollar and fifty cents per acre; and six dollars and a half more to fit it for the harrow for the first crop. In the fall, after the crop is off, I usually put in the plow, and root it over, as the phrase is, and the next spring sow it again to oats and grass, which generally produces from one and a half, to two tons per acre, for a series of years, of good hay.—Yours respectfully,
Smyrna, Me., April, 1858.

LEVI BERRY.
I have now imparted all the information relative to the settling lands of Maine, which is deemed important to the emigrant, before going to examine them for himself.

NOAH BARKER, LAND AGENT.
STATE LAND OFFICE,
BANGOR, ME., MAY 1, 1858.

